



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AUSTIN TEXAS
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02-040

THRU: Regional Directors
Directors, Local Health Departments
Directors, Independent WIC Local Agencies
Director, Office of Public Health Practice

TO: WIC Directors

FROM: Barbara Keir, Director "ORIGINAL SIGNED"
Division of Public Health Nutrition and Education
Bureau of Nutrition Services

DATE: April 2, 2002

SUBJECT: Portagen Powder Recall

This is an alert. Mead Johnson is recalling a batch of Portagen powder coded BMC17 with an expiration date of January 2003. This batch of formula was shipped to distributors and hospitals in February 2001. The recall was initiated after a premature infant became ill after being tube-fed Portagen from this batch and died from *Enterobacter sakazakii* meningitis, a rare form of meningitis in neonates.

If you have any participants on this formula you will want to notify them of this alert. The batch code BMC17 is embossed on the bottom of the can. Participants who have Portagen from this batch code can return the product to the place of purchase or call 1-888-587-7275 with any questions about the recall. Our understanding is that pharmacies and formula distributors have pulled this batch from their supply. Please contact Paula Kanter, Clinical Nutrition Specialist, at (512) 458-7111, ext. 3528, if you need additional information.